16th March 1929]

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know whether anything is provided for minor irrigation tanks which were breached in the storms ?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" Provision for minor irrigation tanks is voted by the Council in a lump sum and is distributed by the Board of Revenue. I have no doubt the Agency will also get its share."

Capital expenditure on irrigation works.

* 1759 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state for the years 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1925—

(a) the total capital expenditure on all irrigation works—dams, canals and others as distinguished from tanks;

(b) the extent of irrigation by canals, rivers or streams as distinguished from that irrigated by tanks; and

(c) the total revenue both gross and net separately?

A.—(a) to (c) The hon. Member is referred to the published Administration Reports for the years mentioned which contains the information that has been compiled.

The classification of irrigation works adopted in the Administration Reports is twofold—viz., "works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept" and "works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are not kept." Under the former category the reports furnish two statements—one giving particulars relating to canals and the other relating to reservoirs (or tanks). But in the canal systems there are tanks fed by the canals, and in the reservoir systems there is in some cases direct irrigation from canals which supply the tanks. Figures showing the total irrigated extent and the total expenditure on irrigation works classified under (1) canals and (2) tanks separately, cannot be collected without a reference to the village accounts. As regards works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are not kept, the Administration Reports contain only lump figures showing the total for the whole Province. These again cannot be split into two classes as required without recompilation from the village accounts. The work of fresh compilation to arrive at the statistics the hon. Member desires would be very great and the Government regret they cannot order it to be undertaken.

Land Revenue

Remission of tree-tax on lands assigned to depressed classes.

* 1760 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the remission of the value of trees is given in all cases where land is given to members of depressed classes?

A.—No. Remission is granted only when the applicant is considered to be too poor to pay the value of the trees.